PM SAYS HE'S SORRY
HARPER APOLOGIZES FOR PEOPLE BEING EJECTED {page 5}

SCARCE ROCK STARS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES {page 14}

LONDON metro®

Weekend, April 8-10, 2011
www.metronews.ca

News worth sharing.

KYLE REA/METRO

▶ Students Haley Nelson, left, and Andrea Lorimer of Fanshawe College's fashion design program model outfits they designed for Saturday's Unbound fashion show at Museum London.

Project Fanshawe

Unbound fashion show at Museum London expected to draw 300+ dignitaries, stars from Canada's fashion industry It's a look at the latest fashion gems from graduating students

KYLE REA
@METRONEWS.CA

Three years of imagination, hard work and fashion know-how went into their designs. And on Saturday, Fanshawe College fashion design students will strut their stuff before Canada's fashion industry as they present the annual Unbound fashion show at Museum London.

Graduating students from Fanshawe's fashion design program will have outfits featured on the catwalk with judges drawn from Canada's fashion industry.

Erica Henry, a fashion student and show promotions co-ordinator, said it takes three years of work to get to this point. Students visit fashion houses in Toronto and New York and monitor trends before their designs hit the catwalk. While marks are assigned for Unbound, it's about more than getting an A.

"All the designs (in the show) are 100 per cent original, from our brains to paper."
JAMES BAILEY, STUDENT AND FASHION SHOW CO-ORDINATOR

"We're branding ourselves along with a show," Henry said. "It's great for networking because that's what the industry is all about. It's all about who you know."

Fellow co-ordinator James Bailey said every fashion design student knows how tough the program is — only 26 out of 64 students made it through the three years and of those, only 11 were selected for Unbound.

But for a potential career in the fashion industry, it's more than worth it, Bailey and Henry agreed.

Strike a pose

- Doors for Saturday's show open at 7 p.m. at Museum London with the show starting at 8 p.m.
- Tickets are $45 and can be purchased at the Grand Theatre box office, 519-672-8800 or online at www.grandtheatre.com.
- A Toronto-based modelling firm will be showcasing student designs, not the students themselves.

1 news

Public outrage continues after prestigious Montreal theatre casts convicted killer.

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On the web at metronews.ca

Facebook fracas and candidate woes dog Stephen Harper and Michael Ignatieff on the campaign trail. Video at metronews.ca.

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Golf course back from the brink

Season for London municipal golf courses officially kicked off on Thursday

KYLE REA
@METRONEWS.CA

A golf course that's lost $1 million over the last decade, and received a reprieve from London city council last month, is now open for business.

And with this new lease on life, city staff say they're already making steps to bring golfers back to River Road Golf Course.

In February, London staff recommended closing the money-losing course, a move to save taxpayers $180,000 annually.

Instead, council agreed to give the course one more year before shutdown.

Scott Stafford, division manager for parks and sports for London, said efforts are underway to save it.

"It's a beautiful course and we're trying to get the message out there and let people know it's a hidden gem," Stafford said. "We're trying to get people out to know how exciting and challenging it is."

He said there'd be more advertising for the course, and that River Road officials have taken steps to widen one section to address a complaint that the course is too difficult.

A report on River Road's success, or lack thereof, is to go before council in the fall.

KYLE REA/METRO

▶ Scott Stafford, manager of parks and community sports for the City of London, tees off at River Road Golf Course on Thursday as an official kickoff to the golf season for city-owned golf courses. River Road, slated for closure by staff in February, got a new lease on life from London city council.

Public courses

City-owned golf courses:

DAVID CANNON/GETTY IMAGES

- River Road Golf Course, 2115 River Rd.
- Thames Valley Classic and Thames Valley Hickory golf courses, 850 Sunninghill Ave.
- Fanshawe Golf Course, which includes the Fanshawe traditional and the Quarry at Fanshawe courses at Clarke Road and Sunningdale Road East.

Dance-fest a showcase

Parents will get a unique opportunity to watch their children perform live next week during the Thames Valley District School Board's annual Dance Festival.

The festival takes place Monday to Friday in the Thames Room at the Education Centre in London and will be streamed live over the Internet.

About 90 schools and close to 5,000 dancers will participate in a non-competitive format. Two performances will take place daily at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Schools can provide specific times when students will be dancing so friends and family can also share in the event. METRO

Watch live

- To watch live, go to mms://video-stream.tvdsb.on.ca/Dance-Festival (This link will be live only during performances.)

News in brief

Teen charged in sexual assault

ARRESTED. St. Thomas Police have charged a 15-year-old boy in a disturbing sexual assault investigation.

The boy, whose name cannot be released, is accused of molesting his 11-year-old step sister. The boy is charged with sexual interference, sexual assault and invitation to sexual touching.

Police say the 15-year-old was arrested on Wednesday and was scheduled to appear in court Thursday.

Few details about the case have been provided.

AM980/AM980.CA

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Members of the Golden Harps Steel Drum Orchestra, front row: Maya Stephen, Terry Greene; middle row, from left: Trudy den Ouden, Alice Lukings; back row: Julian Stephen.

Band mixes beats with eats

Golden Harps' appearance on The Healthy Gourmet expected to air later this season on the OWN network

JIM REYNO
@METRONEWS.CA

6 The number of regular members in the band.

From practising in a backyard garage 17 years ago to an upcoming TV appearance on the Oprah Winfrey Network: Steel drum roll, please.

"Very excited," said Terry Greene, leader of London's Golden Harps Steel Drum Orchestra. "I talked to some of the members, and they were more excited than I was."

It will be the first TV spot for the orchestra, co-founded by Trinidad-native Greene. His daughter Marsha is a producer on The Healthy Gourmet, a program that brings a nutritionist and chef into people's lives to balance healthy eating with tasty eating.

Marsha mentioned the Golden Harps to the show's staff, and they thought it was a great idea. The Healthy Gourmet is filming in London on Saturday and Sunday.

Here's the hook: The band regularly eats together, and The Healthy Gourmet will show band chef Alice Lukings how to keep everyone healthy and happy.

"Everybody comes from different directions, we practise and we play in gig, then everybody goes in different ways — we don't know anything really about anybody," Greene said about his band. "I always call it Getting to Know You, where we sit down and have a meal and a talk."

Part of the filming will be a performance Saturday from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Springbank Gardens bandshell at 285 Wonderland Rd. South. You're invited, and it's free.

Police-SIU review misses key issue: NDP

TANYA TALAGA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Chris Bentley

The NDP says a review of relations between police and the civilian agency tasked with investigating serious injuries and deaths involving police ignored the biggest concern.

Former Ontario chief justice Patrick LeSage recommends police be entitled to a lawyer or union representative whenever they are designated a subject officer by the Special Investigations Unit.

However, NDP justice critic Peter Kormos says LeSage didn't address what he calls the "elephant in the room," the issue of an officer's duty to co-operate with an SIU investigation.

Kormos says the government now has to address that problem.

The Conservatives are concerned LeSage didn't address the issue of a police officer's notes and how they would be handled.

The SIU said in 2009 it was unable to decide if an OPP officer was guilty of wrongdoing in the shooting death of a Peterborough man because officers had their notes vetted by a union lawyer before submitting them to the SIU.

LeSage also recommends a clear definition of what constitutes a "serious injury" to improve communications between police and the SIU.

Attorney General Chris Bentley says relations between police and the SIU will always be fraught with tension, but he hopes LeSage's recommendations will improve relations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police end search for man in river

Police have called off their search for a man who fell into the Thames River earlier this week.

At 3:40 p.m. on Tuesday, police responded to a call reporting that a male, 30-year-old Jeremy Bennett of London, had fallen into the river at the Carfrae Street Bridge at Richmond Street.

Since that time police had been searching the river. The river was extremely high and moving very quickly, making the search efforts quite dangerous.

On Thursday at 3:10 p.m., police concluded their search.

Bennett remains missing, and police ask that anyone with information call 519-661-5670. METRO

Haiku wanted

Home County Folk Festival in London has launched a Great Canadian Haiku Contest. Submit a haiku about a Canadian person, place or thing. Festival artists Hawksley Workman, Royal Wood, Emm Gryner and Tom Wilson will set the winning 17 haiku to music on July 16. Enter until April 30 at aiku@homecounty.ca. $5 entry fee. METRO

Officer interrupts assault

Police say an officer saved a woman from a would-be sexual predator in the Wharncliffe-Riverside Drive area.

Early yesterday, a woman was walking alone on Riverside near Wilson Avenue when she was dragged off the sidewalk by a male suspect. An officer on patrol intervened and arrested the suspect.

Dylan Bilyea, 22, of London faces charges of sexual assault, criminal harassment and threats.

AM980/AM980.CA

Orange you glad you eat 'em

Chemical found in tangerines, mandarin oranges and grapefruit could cut obesity, diabetes but first more research is needed, says Schulich researcher

KYLE REA
@METRONEWS.CA

Do tangerines fight obesity and diabetes? They might, according to research from the University of Western Ontario.

Schulich School of Medicine biologist Murray Huff and a PhD student studied the effects of a chemical in tangerines called nobiletin. They studied two groups of mice given a high fat diet — but one group was given nobiletin.

While the first group got fat, the second group didn't show excessive weight gain and were actually protected from becoming fat by nobiletin. Huff said those mice also showed decreased insulin resistance, a cause of diabetes.

"In terms of preliminary results, it's quite exciting ... (but) it's a little bit premature at the moment to state the same dramatic effect will apply to humans," Huff said.

It was "complete serendipity," that he hit upon researching tangerines after a colleague found that nobiletin changed the fat content of cells.

Tangerines

The highest concentrations of nobiletin are found in tangerines, but citrus fruits like grapefruit and mandarin oranges are other sources.

Mustang. Pride

▶ University of Western Ontario swimmer Hayley Nell, left, winner of the F.W.P. Jones Trophy, poses with fellow swimmer Bryn Jones and football player Craig Butler, winners of the Dr. Claude Brown Trophy, at the Western Mustangs annual athletic banquet at the London Convention Centre on Wednesday.

CRAIG GLOVER/FOR METRO

Varsity athletes come out on top

The nobiletin thing to do

The logical next step for the University of Western Ontario biologist is studying the effect of nobiletin on humans, but biologist Murray Huff said that could be years off — first they need to see if nobiletin can turn back the clock on heart disease and diabetes.

So, then should we eat more tangerines?

Huff speculated that it couldn't hurt.

"Increasing the intake of tangerines has no real downsides," Huff said.

City's grant program to return, Mayor says

A city-based grant program may have been gutted in this year's budget, but it's not completely gone.

That's according to Mayor Joe Fontana, commenting on the city's capital grants program.

"It's still in place," he said.

For years, the grants program has been available to assist non-profit groups, distributing up to half a million dollars in years past.

But this year, city council took $250,000 from that fund as part of its quest to find $1.1 million savings for a zero per cent budget.

When contacted about London city grants, city hall cultural manager Robin Armistead expressed concerns the capital grants program could be on the way out.

Fontana, however, said the program should be back next year.

In 2011, the Aeolian Hall was the sole recipient of funds from the grant program, receiving $100,000 this year with another $50,000 for 2012. They were the only group to successfully bring a grant proposal before council for approval.

KYLE REA

A little help

▶ City of London-run grants program annually gives $500,000 for non-profits to buy buildings, land or renovate their buildings.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Mayor Joe Fontana

Organic Meadow, Farm Boy milk products recalled

The public is being warned not to consume certain Organic Meadow and Farm Boy milk products because they may contain glass fragments.

The affected products are sold in Ontario in 946-millilitre glass bottles with a best before date of April 17.

They include partly skimmed, two per cent, one per cent, whole, unhomogenzied and chocolate milk products.

There have been no reported injuries so far.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is monitoring the recall.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Two men facing trafficking charges

Two London men have been arrested for alleged drug trafficking around Dundas-Richmond streets.

Police saw two men involved in what they thought was a drug deal Wednesday evening. They then seized 1.1 grams of marijuana and morphine tablets.

William Fegan, 25, and Todd Joanisse, 38, were charged.

METRO

Lineup rejigged for Rock the Park

There's been a lineup change for the Rock the Park concert series, July 21-23 in Harris Park, after organizers were informed there was a scheduling conflict with headliner band Stone Temple Pilots.

Originally, STP as well as Our Lady Peace, Sloan and Bleeker Ridge were to perform July 21, but after the scheduling conflict arose, all four acts were shifted to July 23, said Greg Jones, vice-president of Jones Entertainment Group.

Bands playing July 22 remain unchanged.

METRO

TBD

▶ Bands for July 21 are to be determined as a result of that change.

Harper says sorry in furor over screening

- After days of uproar, PM strives to put Tory campaign back on track
- RCMP admits it ejected voters

Election 2011

Stephen Harper has finally said sorry.

The prime minister apologized Thursday for people being booted from Conservative campaign events on suspicion they supported rival parties or groups.

"If anybody is kept out of any of our events that's there to hear our message, then we obviously apologize to them," he said in Vaughan, Ont. "Our interest is in having as many people out to hear our message as we can."

The RCMP has admitted some Mounties helped the Tories eject people, and it reminded its officers their job is to guard leaders, not serve political parties.

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The accused

- The Conservatives allowed a supporter facing fraud-related charges to volunteer on their campaign — and get a plum seat behind Harper at a rally last week.
- Toronto businessman Snover Dhillon is facing a criminal charge for allegedly fraudulent credit and debit card withdrawals.

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Don't count on her vote, Mr. Harper: A young girl cries as she's placed on the lap of the prime minister in Vaughan, Ont., on Thursday.

Iggy blasts candidate – but won't boot him

Comments on sexual assault by a former judge running for the Liberals in Alberta are "utterly, totally unacceptable," Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff said Thursday.

But Ignatieff won't demand that John Reilly quit his candidacy, saying one "disgraceful" remark does not undo a lifetime of public service.

Reilly told a radio interviewer that a young man's inappropriate sexual contact with a drunken teenage girl did not warrant three years jail.

Reilly raised the rather graphic example as he explained his opposition to the Harper government's expansion of mandatory minimum sentences.

He apologized for the comments after the Conservatives circulated them to campaign reporters .

"I unreservedly apologize for the clumsy example I used during my remarks," Reilly said.

He added: "I want to make explicitly clear that I believe that all sexual assaults should be prosecuted and the guilty individuals should be subject to sanctions."

Julian Fantino, a Conservative candidate and former Ontario police commissioner, said: "Sexual offences of any kind are totally and absolutely unacceptable."

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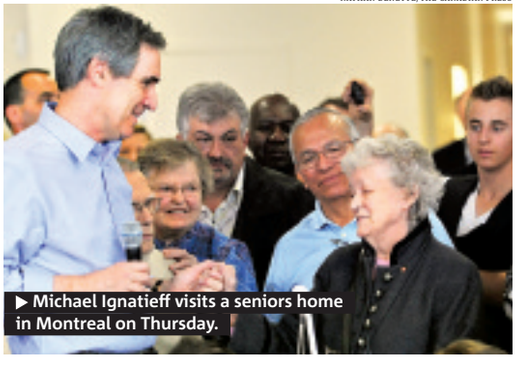
NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Michael Ignatieff visits a seniors home in Montreal on Thursday.

Good strategy?

- Conservatives have exploited public revulsion with crime to paint any critics as being friends of criminals and heartless toward victims.
- But in the United States, even staunch Republicans are starting to question whether measures that incarcerate large numbers of people for long periods are effective public policy.

Crime-fighter Jack

NDP Leader Jack Layton promises to get tough on crime.

He'd put 2,500 more police officers on streets across the country and double funding for programs that try to keep children from joining gangs.

The NDP would invest $100 million a year in crime-prevention programs. The entire platform plank would total $250 million annually.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Zsuzsanna Zsohar

Oh Zsuzsanna, you can't vote

It's a safe bet Michael Ignatieff's wife won't be voting for Stephen Harper on election day.

But she won't be voting for her husband either.

In fact, Zsuzsanna Zsohar won't be voting for anyone.

Hungarian-born Zsohar, who arrived in Canada in 2005, is a landed immigrant.

Liberal spokesperson Marc Roy said she applied for Canadian citizenship as soon as she was eligible, but continues to wait in the queue for her application to be reviewed.

Ignatieff's first marriage was to Londoner Susan Barrowclough.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Libyan rebels rage

Deaths blamed on NATO friendly fire At least five fighters killed

An apparent NATO airstrike slammed into a rebel combat convoy Thursday, killing at least five fighters and sharply boosting anger among anti-government forces after the second bungled mission in a week blamed on the military alliance.

The attack — outside the strategic oil port of Brega — brought fresh questions about co-ordination between NATO and the patchwork of rebel militias in a conflict described by a senior U.S. commander as a stalemate that could eventually require the Pentagon to reassert more power, and possibly even send in ground forces. The fighters are criticizing the alliance for doing too little to help them.

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Strike aircraft

The U.S. general who led the Libyan mission before NATO's takeover said Washington still provides some strike aircraft to NATO including powerful side-firing AC-130 gunship.

Army Gen. Carter Ham even predicted the Pentagon may be forced one day to consider ground forces in Libya if the battle lines remain indefinitely stalled.

ALTAF QADRI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A Libyan woman adjusts the scarf, with the colours of a Libyan pre-Gadhafi flag, of a young girl as she flashes a victory sign while Libyans, in the background, look at the photos of people killed during the ongoing unrest in Benghazi, Libya, Thursday.

News in brief

▶ Syrian President Bashar Assad

Syrian prez shows outreach

SYRIA. President Bashar Assad has granted citizenship to 250,000 Kurds, fulfilling a key demand of Syria's long ostracized minority and making another overture amid extraordinary anti-government protests.

Assad also fired the governor of central Homs province, the scene of clashes between anti-government protesters and security forces.

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Yemen OK's mediation

YEMEN. The Yemeni opposition has welcomed an offer by Arab Gulf states to mediate between President Ali Abdullah Saleh and protesters demanding he step down after 32 years in power.

Saleh's government, however, says the proposal by the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council is unconstitutional.

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Unrest stirs pot in Jordan

JORDAN. A Jordanian man set himself on fire Thursday outside the prime minister's office in the first such act since political unrest hit Jordan in January. A doctor said Mohammed Abdul-Karim was in critical condition. Prosecutors charged 80 people with resisting arrest.

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Soccer players disqualified

BAHRAIN. A senior soccer official in Bahrain says four national team players have been suspended by their clubs because "they are against the government," and that means they are automatically disqualified from the national team.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Japanese diplomats rescued in Ivory Coast

French forces rappelled in the dark from a chopper to rescue Japan's ambassador to the Ivory Coast and seven of his colleagues after the envoy's home was taken over by armed mercenaries in the embattled West African nation.

Yoshifumi Okamura and the other Japanese diplomats were trapped Wednesday when the residence in Abidjan's embassy district came under attack and was occupied as fighting between supporters and opponents of strongman Laurent Gbagbo intensified across the city.

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2,430

France has evacuated 2,430 foreigners, including French citizens and those of other countries, from the fighting in Abidjan.

Israel retaliates after missile hits school bus

Israeli defence officials said the incident marked a significant moment that would warrant a severe response

An anti-tank missile fired from the Gaza Strip struck a school bus in southern Israel Thursday, wounding two people, one of them critically, and prompting fierce Israeli retaliation that killed five Palestinians.

Israel unleashed airstrikes and tank fire against Hamas targets across the border.

It was the heaviest assault on the coastal territory since a broad military offensive two years ago.

Besides the dead, more than 30 Palestinians were wounded, said a Palestinian official.

He said one of the dead was a 50-year-old civilian who was sitting outside his home when he was struck by tank fire. Three others were militants killed near the southern Gaza town of Rafah. The fifth man was a Hamas policeman.

Tensions have been rising between Israel and Palestinian militants in Gaza over the past few weeks. For Israel, Thursday's attack was the most serious of this period.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fragile peace

- **Outbreak:** The sudden outbreak of violence illustrated the fragile situation along the Israel-Gaza border, where small bouts of fighting can quickly escalate into heavy-scale warfare.

SAID KHATIB/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Smoke billows from smuggling tunnels linking the southern Gaza Strip to Egypt targeted by an Israeli raid in the town of Rafah on Thursday, killing two people and wounding 14.

Woman in cancer scam won't go to prison

An Ontario woman who shaved her head and eyebrows to convince people she had cancer and then pocketed the donations they made to her bogus charity will not go to jail for the scam.

Ashley Kirilow received a 15-month conditional sentence Thursday with 10 months to be served under house arrest.

The judge also ordered her to attend counselling and take medication for anxiety and depression.

Kirilow, 23, is currently receiving psychiatric treatment in at Joseph Brant Hospital in Burlington.

She also must complete 100 hours of community service but is not allowed to volunteer for charity.

The sentence is "not an instrument for the acting of public vengeance and retribution," Justice Fred Forsythe told the court.

The emphasis is on "rehabilitation of the offender which obviously benefits both the offender and society," he added.

Forsythe said he took into consideration that Kirilow is in a psychiatric ward and had a troubled upbringing, adding he believed she can lead a normal life.

Kirilow said nothing as she left the courtroom wearing large sunglasses and a wool hat.

She had already pleaded guilty to one count of fraud over $5,000 in November and pleaded guilty to one count of fraud under $5,000 Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Ashley Kirilow follows lawyer Brendan Neil from the Milton courthouse on Thursday.

The spoils

- Kirilow, who was facing a maximum of 14 years in prison, admitted last year that she defrauded one woman of $7,400 at a fundraiser and even shaved her head and eyebrows and plucked her eyelashes to appear sick.
- Court heard on Thursday that Kirilow took about $12,000, but because it was cash the actual amount will never be known.

A king's wayward son faces the music

Belgium's government on Thursday set a list of conditions it wants King Albert's youngest son to abide by after a series of scandals that even angered the monarch.

Prince Laurent, 47, the king's third child, has been accused of taking unauthorized travel to Congo, Belgium's former colony, and meeting a Libyan diplomat who had joined the opposition, also without any diplomatic oversight.

Prime Minister Yves Leterme told parliament Thursday that the conditions, which could have consequences for Laurent's annual stipend of some $400,000, "should make a continuation and repeat of the unacceptable activities and behaviour impossible."

As third child of the king, Laurent has no realistic chance of ever taking the throne.

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He ended anti-gay law, now he admits he's gay

The federal judge who struck down California's gay marriage ban has confirmed he's gay.

Chief U.S. District Judge Vaughn Walker retired in February — several months after his landmark decision, which is being challenged in an appeals court.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Metro List

PAUL SULLIVAN

PM'S PHOBIA TO BIEBER'S RIGHT FOOT

1 Stephen Harper's Facebook phobia. Something about kicking those two kids out of Conservative rallies for posing with Michael Ignatieff on Facebook sends chills down our spines. Apology: Too little, too late. If the backlash keeps up look for the prime minister to roll out the piano and torture another Beatles song. Hint: A Little Help From My Friends is easier to sing than Imagine. If Ringo Starr can sing it, anyone can.

2 American Idol: For anyone wondering if this is the best season yet, Wednesday night's show, featuring killer performances from all nine survivors, should seal the deal. Any one of the nine could have blown away last year's winner, er, what's his name. Idol is back. Even Randy Jackson ("Yo, dawg") looks and sounds better this year. Of course, anyone who turns up in the same shot as Jennifer Lopez looks better.

3 Record price for gold and silver. Precious metals got more precious. An ounce of gold now costs $1,457.69 and an ounce of silver costs $39.73. The price of an ounce of common sense: Still priceless. That big crunching noise is the sound of Canadians having their gold fillings removed in order to make the down payment on their mortgages.

4 It's the Masters this week and everybody is wondering if Tiger has any game left. There's obviously enough for the 22-year-old daughter of his agent at IMG. Is it my imagination or is his new girlfriend, Alyse Lahti Johnston, virtually indistinguishable from Elin Nordegren, the woman who finally put Tiger's career in the rough after all her husband's bad lies? Tiger has come a long way from the kid who blew away the competition at his first Masters as a pro back in 1997 when he set a course record for the tournament and beat everyone else by 12 strokes. A long way ... down.

5 Nuclear tsunami nerves. Afterquakes, fallout, new tsunami warnings, oh my. Chicken Little doesn't know where to look. On schedule for 2012: End of the world.

Also-rans:

6 Kirstie Alley falls down, but gets back up again. Dancing With The Mars Bars ...

7 Why are we in ... Libya?

8 Silvio Berlusconi: Can you say train wreck in Italian? (treno relitto?)

9 Snow in Calgary: The final flick of Winter's Tail.

10 Bieber watch: His voice breaks in Antwerp and some idiot buys his shoe for $1,400, and that's only the right foot.

Worth mentioning

WASHINGTON. Astronomers are puzzling over an extraordinary cosmic blast in a distant galaxy.

The gamma-ray explosion was observed March 28 by NASA's Swift satellite. Flaring from such an event usually lasts a couple of hours.

Scientists say this blast is unusual because the effects are long-lasting.

More than a week later, they continue to see high-energy radiation spiking and fading at the source.

The burst was likely caused by a star that was ripped apart after drifting too close to a supermassive black hole.

Since the explosion, the Hubble Space Telescope and Chandra X-ray Observatory have focused on the aftermath.

Hubble will observe if the galaxy's core changes brightness in the coming days.

The galaxy is 3.8 billion light years from Earth. A light year is about six trillion miles (9.6 trillion kilometres).

On the web: http://tinyurl.com/cosmicblast

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

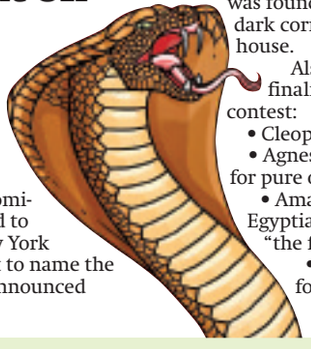
Cartoon by Michael De Adder

WEIRD NEWS

Now we know what to put on pet collar

The Bronx Zoo cobra that became famous for vanishing has been named Mia, for "missing in action."

More than 33,000 nominations were submitted to the Bronx Zoo and New York Daily News in a contest to name the cobra. The name was announced Thursday.



The venomous Egyptian cobra went missing two weeks ago and quickly became the stuff of legend. Someone even started pretending to be the cobra on Twitter. The animal was found last Thursday in a dark corner of the reptile house.

Also chosen as finalists in the name contest:

- Cleopatra
- Agnes, which is Greek for pure or holy.
- Amaunet, an ancient Egyptian goddess. It means "the female hidden one."
- Subira, Egyptian for "patient."

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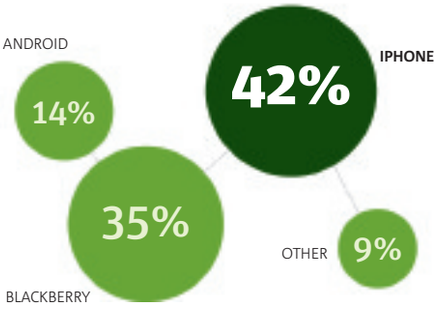
Take the poll online at metronews.ca

Where do your smartphone loyalties lie?



TODAY'S QUESTION: THE KENNEDYS IS PREMIERING SUNDAY. WHO IS YOUR PICK FOR THE BEST PORTRAYAL OF A U.S. PRESIDENT?

Local tweets

- **@ecoLIVINGLondon:** TALK: Socially Responsible Investing — GreenDrinks London — April 19th — 7 pm — http://bit.ly/hP6ZDO — #ldnont #yxu #ldnevnt
- **@MikeMarsman:** Anyone know of secure bike lockup options in #ldnont? I know my old office had one & London Life has one. Anything open to the public?
- **@westernclubs:** Looking to get involved? Apply to be a part of a USC Executive Committee — apps are due by April 11th at 4 pm!
- **@unmuseum:** Good day for a run in #ldnont :)
- **@Aaron_J_Brown:** Such a nice day in the #ldnont!
- **@Mike_Wood1:** Why is my teacher talking about existentialism on the last day of business ethics class ... wtf we're business students show us the money #uwo
- **@MedSydHall:** Last day of classes. Bring on the library, coffee and all nighters. #uwo
- **@a__richardson:** Loving this weather — please tell me winter is over #ldnont. I don't know if I can handle anymore.

metro
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Young adults delay home ownership

RBC poll finds rising real-estate prices and worries about large enough down payments are biggest concerns among young Canadians

As home prices continue to outpace income growth, many young Canadians have decided to postpone home ownership, the Royal Bank of Canada says.

RBC's annual home-ownership poll found that 55 per cent of Canadians aged 18 to 34 say it makes sense to put off a home purchase until next year. That's 10 percentage points more than the national average for all ages.

Meanwhile, about half of young people who have already bought a home say their mortgage is eating up too much of their income — suggesting their peers may have good reason to wait.

First-time buyers account for a huge portion of all Canadian housing sales, making the demographic influential in determining the health of the housing market.

These buyers are most affected by stricter lending rules and by changes enacted last month that shortened the maximum amortization period for a mortgage to 30 years, increasing the size of monthly payments.

Still, 43 per cent of young adults say they intend to buy in the next two years, suggesting the housing market will continue to be healthy.

"It makes sense that younger homebuyers are waiting to assess all of their options and do their research before buying a home," RBC's Bernice Dunsby said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Home prices outpace income

A sharp rebound in housing-market activity as Canada emerged from the recession has sent home prices soaring. The national average price rose 8.8 per cent year over year to a record $365,192 in February.

But income levels haven't grown at the same rate. A Bank of Montreal report last month found average resale home prices compared with personal incomes are 14 per cent above the long-term trend.

That makes it more difficult to afford a home, as mortgage payments eat into a larger portion of Canadians' paycheques.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Banking. Apps

▶ A smartphone user calculates mortgage payments with CIBC's Home Adviser app.

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bank of information

Smartphone apps are making it easier to do your banking any time, any place. They can even help you buy a house. CIBC's Home Adviser application can be linked to a smartphone's GPS to show property values in a neighbourhood as well as basic demographic information. Found your dream home? Use the app's handy calculator to determine your mortgage payments.

The buck stops here, as Dollarama prices inch up

Selling merchandise for more than just a dollar is giving discount retailer Dollarama more flexibility against inflation, chief executive Larry Rossy says.

"I wouldn't still like to be selling everything at a dollar," Rossy said on Thursday, after the Montreal retail chain reported fourth-quarter profits of $42 million.

Rossy says higher inflation in the countries of origin of Dollarama's major suppliers — mainly China — is driving up prices of some items.

"So that multiprice environment is allowing us to be more flexible while always being considerate of the type of value we're offering our customers," he said.

Dollarama Inc. has been selling merchandise for between one and two dollars, with some higher priced items, for the past two years. Items that cost more than one dollar accounted for 42 per cent of sales in the fourth quarter, up from 30 per cent in the same period last year, and are likely to reach 50 per cent of total sales.

"It's not going to go the other way, that's for darn sure," Rossy said. "The pricing structure will continue evolving upward, at what speed I am not sure. It will depend on what happens across the ocean."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soup to nuts

Dollarama, founded in 1992, is Canada's largest dollar-store chain, with 652 outlets.

- **It sells everything from** canned soup to envelopes, decorations and kitchen supplies.
- **Chief executive Larry** Rossy said he expects to open about 50 new stores in fiscal 2012.
- **Fourth-quarter results** ended Jan. 30 were equal to 56 cents per share, compared with $34 million or 45 cents a share in the same period a year earlier.

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Tories to double tax-free max

But not until 2015-16 Liberals liken the campaign vow to 'promising beer out of rainwater'

The Conservatives promise to double — to $10,000 — the maximum annual contribution to tax-free savings accounts after the deficit is eliminated in 2015-16.

The accounts have proved to be a popular savings vehicle, with more than 4.7 million Canadians having built up about $18 billion since 2008, when they were introduced.

However, the cost to the government in lost tax revenue will be $30 million in the first year, the Conservatives estimate. The vehicle has other drawbacks as well; it has been of little use to those Canadians unable to save more than $5,000 per year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft
– 94.88 (14,107.77)	+ 0.21¢ (104.33¢ US)	+ $1.47 US ($110.30 US)	$4.057 US (– 8.9¢ US)

Gold contracts $1,459.30 US (+ 80¢ US)

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY

Japan. Airlines

▶ Japan Airlines passenger jets line the tarmac at Haneda airport in Tokyo. JAL has asked employees to take unpaid lead due to plummeting demand for air travel.

ITSUO INOUYE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trying to stay above ground

Japan Airlines' 12,000 workers have been asked to take unpaid leave in the coming months due to a plunge in demand for air travel after the March tsunami. To cope with falling demand, JAL is cutting 74 international flights this month, or about five per cent of JAL's total international flights.

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London CANADA

Plot synopsis

- Russell Brand is Arthur Bach, the ne're-do-well heir to an enormous fortune. He's a womanizing playboy, a drunk man-child whose nanny (Helen Mirren) describes as "merely shaped like an adult." When he embarrasses his mother she brings down the hammer. Either he straightens up and marries the beautiful but all-business Susan or be disinherited. Trouble is, he's in love with Naomi (Greta Gerwig) a charismatic Grand Central Station tour guide.
- **Ratings:**
Richard: ⊕⊕⊕
Mark: ⊕⊕½

▶ Russell Brand stars in Arthur, a remake of a Dudley Moore comedy.

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Arthur 2.0 succeeds

Richard Crouse and Mark Breslin debate the merits of Arthur ◐ Brand does well in remake, but the Reel Guys differ on his love interest Greta Gerwig

Richard Crouse: Mark, "Arthur Redux" isn't an improvement on the original, but it isn't a complete waste of time either. I really think your enjoyment of Arthur, the remake of the 30-year-old Dudley Moore comedy, is in direct ratio to your enjoyment of Russell Brand. His brand of Brit-speak verbal diarrhea works in small doses, the trick here is to see whether audiences will sit through two hours of word-play rivalled only by Charlie Sheen on a crack fuelled Internet rant.

Mark Breslin: I liked the movie. In fact, I really liked it when I saw it in 1980. It is in no way superior to the original, but Russell Brand does pull it off, although with far less subtlety than Dudley Moore. The lines are good if not great, but I thought everybody else in the film paled in comparison. Even the great Helen Mirren was no John Gielgud, and Greta Gerwig still seems like she's the best thing in a student film.

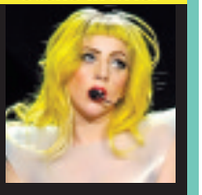
RC: Mirren may not equal Gielgud here, but it's almost worth the price of admission to see her wear a Darth Vader mask. As for Gerwig I honestly think she's the best thing in the movie. She's naturally charismatic and as un-Hollywood an actor as we have in Hollywood films right now. She's quirky, cool and without her the movie wouldn't be nearly as effective. The second half, when it takes a turn for the touching, is better than the "funny" first half and she's responsible for that.

MB: Interesting. It's the second, "serious" half of the movie that didn't work for me. Brand lacks the tragic element that Moore brought, probably because at five-foot-two Dudley looks vulnerable (and infantile) from the start. And not to attack Ms. Gerwig, but I didn't get why Arthur would choose her as a romantic interest above all others. She wasn't all that wild or even all that Bohemian. I thought Luis Guzman was a far better match, although that would have been a *very* different movie. Nice to see Nick Nolte, although his extended cameo does not qualify as a comeback vehicle.

RC: Funny how we've spent very little time discussing the star of the movie. Brand can deliver a joke, unfortunately in the first half of the movie he delivers every line like they are all punch lines. Like the character he's playing, he's not as charming as he thinks he is, but he can raise a smile here and there.

2 scene

Scene in brief



Lady Gaga will return to this year's MuchMusic Video Awards, two years after stealing the show with a performance that ended with sparks flying from the singer's bustier. This year's bash will be held in Toronto on June 19.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

After success in producing and songwriting, Linda Perry gives performing 2nd try with new band

Mulroney's life goes operatic

Take some controversy, add melodrama, throw in a villain, a wedding, some singing and you have opera

ANNE BRODIE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Mulroney: The Opera is about to raise shackles in a most entertaining, musical way. It's a bizarre satire that leaves little unsaid.

Rick Miller endured three hours of latex, lip synched to an actual opera singer and took the country's pulse to become this towering Wagnerian anti-hero who was our prime minister.

"I slip under the chin of someone who is almost universally vilified, to find a degree of nuance. I like him more now than I did before," Miller said. "If anything this story is somewhat sympathetic."

"Look, I've spent several months reading and reviewing and watching and living this story. It's a satire. He comes across as vain and arrogant, but he was vain and arrogant."

The story begins in Mulroney's hometown where the seeds of his political future were sown. "He was all doe-eyed about Baie Comeau (Quebec), which was a mill town, an awful place. He had this bright-eyed view of America, a big home away from home," Miller said, adding "A lot of this film is about the delusions of power."

"I slip under the chin of someone who is almost universally vilified, to find a degree of nuance. I like him more now than I did before."
RICK MILLER

Miller sees Mulroney's legacy as clearly split and haunted by Pierre Trudeau.

"He is loved and loathed," Miller said, "Trudeau has more scandals than Mulroney, but you can't just look at the scandals. He won more seats than Trudeau ever won. I can hear him now, 'Maybe there was that Trudeau movie on the CBC, but I got an OPERA!'"

▶ Rick Miller stars as Brian Mulroney in Mulroney: The Opera.

Movie review See it twice ●●●●● | See it now ●●●● | Worth watching ●●● | Yawn ●● | Don't bother ●

Hanna has style and substance

Hanna
Genre: Thriller/Action
Director: Joe Wright
Stars: Saoirse Ronan, Cate Blanchett, Eric Bana
●●●½

Fresh off of a pair of serious costume dramas (Pride And Prejudice and Atonement), British filmmaker Joe Wright re-fashions himself as an action director with Hanna. As inappropriate as that transition might sound, Wright pulls it off admirably, dishing out high-octane entertainment with the same heightened style driven by impossible steadycam shots developed in his previous work.

The almost unfairly talented teen actress Saoirse Ronan stars as the daughter of an ex-CIA cop (Eric Bana) trained from birth for a fight to the death with a longtime familial foe from her father's past (Cate Blanchett). The bulk of the film is dedicated to a chase between Blanchett and Ronan with all of the suspense, gunfights, and endless running montages you'd expect.

Hanna feels like Wright's attempt to prove himself as a stylist capable of more than just literary adaptations. He clearly knows how to design thrilling action sequences, but there's an extent to which the film feels like a lot of A-list talent wasted on an above average action movie. The performances are uniformly excellent and the plot moves like a bullet, but lesser talents probably could have made this movie just as entertainingly, if not proficiently. ● PHIL BROWN

Soul Surfer
Genre: Drama
Director: Sean McNamara
Stars: AnnaSophia Robb, Dennis Quaid and Helen Hunt
●●●

When young surfer girl Bethany Hamilton's passion for wave riding was cut short by a tiger shark attack in 2003, it made headlines. She survived of course, but her arm was completely severed below the joint. Her road to recovery, her spiritual healing and eventual triumphant re-emergence as a champion surfer makes up the narrative of Soul Surfer, a fairly saccharine, faith themed bio-drama that is nonetheless stirring.
● CHRIS ALEXANDER

Your Highness
Genre: Comedy
Director: David Gordon Green
Stars: Danny McBride, James Franco, Natalie Portman
●●½

I guess the stoner comedy and the medieval adventure were two genres that were never meant to go together, but you can't blame longtime collaborators Danny McBride and director David Gordon Green for trying. This certainly isn't a cookie cutter movie. Isolated sequences and gags are wonderfully bizarre, but overall the project feels like a failed experiment.
● PHIL BROWN

Born To Be Wild 3D
Genre: Documentary
Director: David Lickley
●●●

Director David Lickley creates a series of remarkably immersive images of exotic animals and locations that are impossible not to be hypnotized by on the overwhelmingly massive IMAX canvas. The focus is on Dr. Birute Galdikas and Dr. Daphne Sheldrick, who rescue and raise orphaned orangutans in the rainforests of Borneo, and elephants in the Kenyan savannah respectively. It's lightweight, but inspiring subject matter told through extraordinary larger-than-life images. ● PHIL BROWN

Scream for more

Despite being one of the new girls in the fourth installment of the horror franchise, Panettiere fits right in The rising star got practice with horrific situations on the set of Heroes Being in the film was like camp, she says

NED EHRBAR
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN HOLLYWOOD

Coming in as a new cast-member in the fourth installment of a horror franchise, an actress can't feel too great about her chances of seeing the end credits.

But Hayden Panettiere insists that in Scream 4, no one is safe.

She sat down with Metro to tell us what little she could about the movie.

So what are you allowed to say about Scream 4?

Sidney Prescott comes back to her hometown, and it's the anniversary. Then weird things start happening, and pranks start being made and (whispering) they come back.

And then a lot of people die. But it's like a giant game of Clue at the same time. Who's the killer? Who's going to die next? It plays off of these rules to the new way of making a horror film. Virgins can die now.

I'm not going to ask you if your character dies.

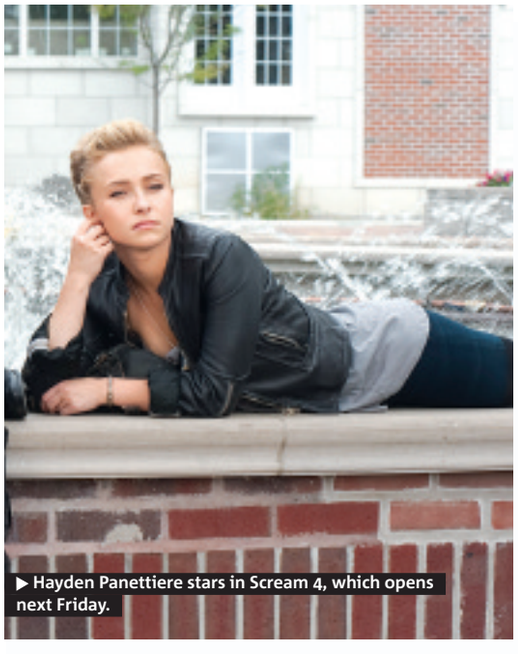
I know. (laughs) And it's so funny because people come in and they ask it, and then they reword it three or four different ways to try to get it out. But nobody's safe. Anyone can die.

And it's a pretty big cast, too.

You've got a lot of people in there. You would literally run by somebody in the Holiday Inn — that's where we were staying — and you're like, "Hey! What are you doing here? You shooting a movie?" And they're like, "Yeah, Scream 4. You?" "Oh … oh. Me too! Who are you playing?"

What was the atmosphere like at the hotel?

Like camp. It was literally like camp. We had way too much fun. It was barely a movie. They were really welcoming. Like, Neve (Campbell) on the weekends would sometimes rent this big cabin on this big lake and invite the cast and crew out. We had a blast.



▶ Hayden Panettiere stars in Scream 4, which opens next Friday.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., APR. 8 TO THURS., APR. 14. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

LONDON

Mustang Drive-In -London 2551 Wilton Grove Rd., 519-644-1160

Insidious (STC) Fri-Sun 9:45 Tue 9:45
Limitless (14A) Fri-Sun 8:05 Tue 8:05
Paul (14A) Fri-Sun 8:10 Tue 8:10
Your Highness (STC) Fri-Sun 10:05 Tue 10:05

Hyland Cinema 240 Wharncliffe Road South, 519-913-0313

Barney's Version (14A) Fri-Mon 2:45 Tue 4:30 Wed 6:55 Thu 4:40
Cedar Rapids (14A) Fri 7:15 Sat 5:10 Sun-Mon 9:15 Tue 2:40 Wed 9:20 Thu 12:50
The King's Speech (STC) Fri 12:40-5:10 Sat 12:40-7 Sun 12:40-7:10 Mon 12:40-5:10 Tue 7 Wed 12:40-4:50 Thu 2:30-7:05
True Grit (14A) Fri 9 Sat 9:10 Sun 5:10 Mon 7:15 Tue 12:40-9:10 Wed 2:50 Thu 9:10

Rainbow Cinemas London 355 Wellington St., 519-434-3073

Arthur (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-7:10-9:45
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:40-7:20-9:30
Hanna (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:20-5:30-7:35-9:55
Hop (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:10-5:20-7:30-9:40
Insidious (STC) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:5:10-7:25-9:50
Source Code (PG) Fri-Sat 1:05-3:15-5:15-7:35-9:45 Sun 7:35-9:45 Mon-Thu 1:05-3:15-5:15-7:35-9:45
Your Highness (STC) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:35-7:05-9:30

Western Film Room 340, UCC Building,

Just Go With It (PG) Fri-Thu 9:05
Old School (14A) Fri 12
Tangled (PG) Fri-Thu 7

Wellington 8 Cinemas 983 Wellington Rd. S, 519-685-2529

Arthur (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:10-3:50-6:50-9:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:50-9:30
Hanna (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:10-7-9:45 Mon-Thu 7-9:45
Hop (G) Fri-Sun 1:15-4-6:45-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:35
Insidious (STC) Fri-Sun 2-4:35-7:15-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:50
The Lincoln Lawyer (14A) Fri-Thu 9:10
Paul (14A) Fri-Sun 1-3:30-6:30 Mon-Thu 6:30
Soul Surfer (PG) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:40
Source Code (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:15-6:40-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:20
Your Highness (STC) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:30-7:20-9:55 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:55

Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas 755 Wonderland Road South, 519-474-2796

Arthur (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:40-4:10-7-10 No Passes Mon 7-9:45 No Passes Tue 4:10-7-9:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 7-9:45 No Passes Fri 3:50-6:30-9:10 No Passes Sat 12:30-3:50-6:30-9:10 No Passes Sun 1:15-3:50-6:30-9:10 No Passes Mon 6:30-9:05 No Passes Tue 3:50-6:30-9:05 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:30-9:05 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules (G) Fri 12:50-4:20-6:50-9:20 Sat 4:50-6:50-9:20 Sun 12:50-4:20-6:50-9:20 Mon 6:50-9:20 Tue 4:15-6:50-9:20 Wed-Thu 6:50-9:20
Hanna (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:50-6:40-9:40 Mon 6:40-9:30 Tue 3:50-6:40-9:30 Wed-Thu 6:40-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Hop (G) No Passes Fri-Sun 12-2:25-4:55-7:30-9:55 No Passes Mon 6:30-9:10 No Passes Tue 4-6:30-9:10 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:30-9:10
Limitless (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-4-7:10-9:50 Mon 7:10-9:40 Tue 4:20-7:10-9:40 Wed-Thu 7:10-9:40 Fri-Sat 4:50-7:30-10:10 Sun 2:15-4:50-7:30-10:10 Mon 7:30-10 Tue 4:50-7:30-10 Wed-Thu 7:30-10
The Lincoln Lawyer (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-3:40-6:30-9:30 Mon 6:35-9:25 Tue 3:40-6:35-9:25 Wed-Thu 6:35-9:25
The Metropolitan Opera: Le Comte Ory (STC) Sat 1 Sat 1
Source Code (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:40-7:35-10:15 Mon 7:30-10 Tue 4:40-7:30-10 Wed-Thu 7:30-10
Your Highness (STC) No Passes Fri 1-4:30-7:20-10:10 No Passes Sat 1-4-7:20-10:10 No Passes Sun 1-4:30-7:20-10:10 No Passes Mon 7:20-9:55 No Passes Tue 4:30-7:20-9:55 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:20-9:55 No Passes Fri 4:20-7-9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:45-4:20-7-9:40 No Passes Mon 7-9:35 No Passes Tue 4:20-7-9:35 No Passes Wed-Thu 7-9:35

SilverCity London 1680 Richmond St, 519-673-4125

Arthur (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:40-4-7:10-10:20 No Passes Wed 4-7:10-10:20 No Passes Thu 12:40-4-7:10-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules (G) Fri-Sun 12:10-3:40-6:30-9:10 Mon-Thu 1:05-3:40-6:30-9:10
Foo Fighters: Back and Forth (STC) Wed 7
Hanna (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-6:50-9:50
Hop (G) No Passes Fri-Sat 12-2:35 No Passes Sun 12-2:35-5-7:40-10:05 No Passes Mon-Tue 12:55-3:55-6:35-9:15 No Passes Wed 6:35-9:15 No Passes Thu 12:55-3:55-6:35-9:15 No Passes Fri 12-2:35-5-7:40-10:05 No Passes Sat 5-7:40-10:05 No Passes Wed 12:55-3:55
Insidious (STC) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:05-7:10
Limitless (14A) Fri 3:30-7:05-9:55 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:30-7:05-9:55 Mon-Thu 12:45-3:30-7:05-9:55
The Lincoln Lawyer (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:35-6:45-9:45
The Metropolitan Opera: Le Comte Ory (STC) Sat 1
Paul (14A) Fri 12:55-6:55-9:40 Sat-Thu 12:55-3:55-6:55-9:40
Rango (PG) Fri 1:20-4:15 Sat 4:50 Sun-Thu 1:20-4:15
Soul Surfer (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 1-3:50-6:35-9:20 No Passes Wed 3:50-6:35-9:20 No Passes Thu 1-3:50-6:35-9:20 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Source Code (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:40-7:25-10:15
Sucker Punch (14A) Fri-Tue 7:30-10:30 Wed 10:30 Thu 7:30-10:30
Your Highness (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:25-4:20-7:20-10:10

WHERE ARE THE ROCK STARS?

Alan Cross wonders where have all the rock stars gone Today's rock stars might be hard to spot in a crowd Is rock and roll gasping for air?

Sound Check

ALAN CROSS
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

The 30 people in my Grade 10 home room class could be classified as follows: three were fans of pop music; five preferred country; and the remaining 22 were KISS fans. KISS were rock stars, musicians with music, money, success and near global ubiquity. We knew this because the DJ on the radio told us so.

As we grew older and spread our musical curiosities wider, we discovered more Rock Stars: Robert Plant, David Lee Roth, Mick Jagger, David Bowie, Ozzy, Freddy Mercury. Not only did we know their music, but we could recognize them within a nanosecond of being shown a picture.

I bring this up because of something Sammy Hagar said in a recent interview: "Where have all the rock stars gone?" he wondered. He wasn't speaking of any disappearance of the old guard or of more recent members of the rock aristocracy (Cobain, Grohl, Cornell, Vedder et al), but of the current generation of rock musicians.

Outside of Jack White and Chris Martin, has the last decade produced a bona fide, worldwide, block-caps ROCK STAR? Sure, groups like Linkin Park and Muse have worldwide fan bases in the millions, but would you be able to spot Chester Bennington or Matt Belamy in a crowd? A fan surely would. Then again, even a non-fan of, say, U2 could identify Bono in a line-up.

Something has gone missing. We're not cranking out true Rock Stars like we used to.

It could be that rock music has been over-segmented into too many separate genres and scenes for any KISS-style mass consensus to form. While many of these genres and scenes are extremely active and vital and contain their own private star systems, few have ascended beyond being celebrities amongst their own people.

GETTY IMAGES

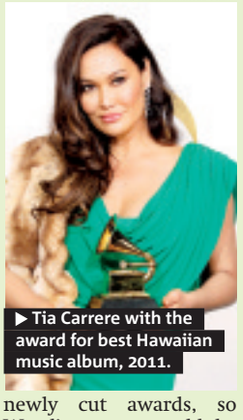
▶ Since breaking on to the scene in The White Stripes, Jack White has gone on to start two other bands and work with rock legends like The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan and Wanda Jackson.

This doesn't mean that rock is dying. In fact, more people are making music than ever before. But where we once had a thousand bands with a million fans each, we now have a million bands with a thousand fans each.

Or maybe we're seeing something new in the evolution of rock. As Bob Geldof told me in a conversation a couple of weeks ago, "It's possible that rock is just tired. It's not the prime mover in popular culture anymore. Maybe after 60 years, it's time for something else and someone else to move things forward."

Grammy reduction creates dysfunction?

JAE C. HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Tia Carrere with the award for best Hawaiian music album, 2011.

The Grammy Awards moved to drop best Native American album category Wednesday sending a shockwave through aboriginal communities.

The Recording Academy, which puts on the annual music awards gala, announced it would reduce the number of categories from 109 to 78 for next year's ceremony.

Material that would have been submitted in the obsolete categories will have a home in other genre categories.

Northern Cree's Steve Wood, who has never won a Grammy despite six nominations, was disappointed when he heard the news.

"I always thought it was good they recognized and acknowledged our music," Wood said in a telephone interview Wednesday. "I thought if I ever got up on that stage, I would tell them that (and thank them) for recognizing and acknowledging what is probably the oldest form of music in this land."

If Northern Cree still wants to be considered for a Grammy, the group can submit for consideration in a new category called "best regional roots album."

But that category will also encompass other newly cut awards, so Wood's group would be competing with a diverse cross-section of genres that also includes Hawaiian, zydeco and Cajun music.

"I don't even understand what it means, 'regional roots music.' I have no idea what that means," he said.

"If we're talking about music, the original music of this land, that's aboriginal music. The first music ever played on this land. That's basically it. All other music is derived from somewhere else."

"How can you put round-dancer powwow music against music that is basically closer to mainstream music, with the guitars and whatnot? I don't understand that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Making it on her own

Lauren Pritchard turned down Glee to pursue her soulful debut album

Ever since Lauren Pritchard was a teenager, she dreamed of becoming a singer-songwriter — a goal she pursued with almost singular determination, even passing up a coveted opportunity to achieve it.

At 18, she appeared on Broadway in the Tony Award-winning Spring Awakening, but left for a musical career.

She landed a development deal with a major record label, but abandoned it because she felt she wouldn't be allowed to create songs her way.

Pritchard then auditioned for a TV pilot, but after catching producers' interest, decided not to pursue the role. Instead, she set out for London to record the album she wanted to make for years.

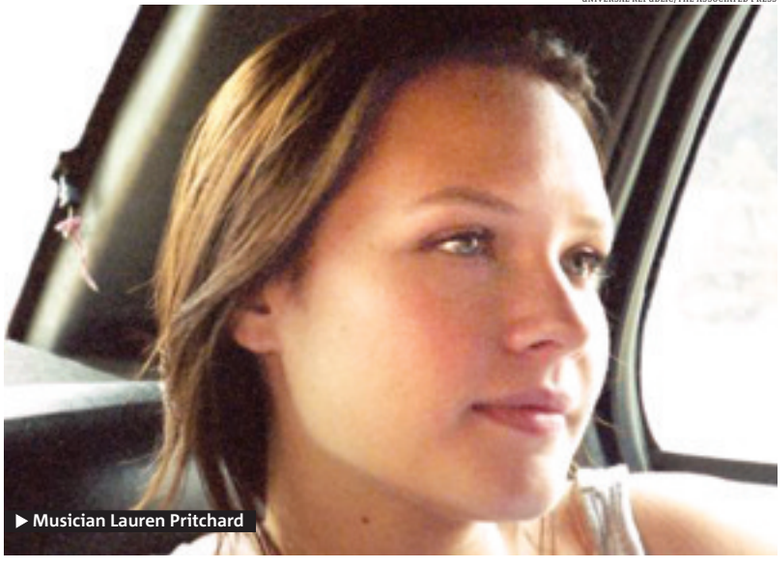
The TV pilot turned out to be Fox network's Glee, and the role was Rachel Berry, which has made Lea Michele a singing and acting sensation.

But Pritchard, who is currently on tour, has no regrets about Glee, or any of her other career choices, because she feels she took the right path.

"I have totally felt I made the right decision, and to me, the success of the show really does excite me because I know that Lea is doing what she loves, and to see her do what she loves ... is very exciting," she said.

Pritchard's debut CD, Wasted in Jackson, is a soulful, wistful album that has received solid to stellar reviews since it was released digitally last fall; it was released to stores in February.

UNIVERSAL REPUBLIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Musician Lauren Pritchard

It mines typical territory for a 23-year-old, including love and relationships, but also explores the restlessness of an ambitious spirit trying to avoid stagnation – a theme that resonates with Pritchard.

"It's a reflection of how I was really feeling; it was very much written in hindsight," the petite brunette said in a recent interview. "I'm an extremely nosy, adventurous person."

Pritchard got her start by singing in school talent competitions and at local shows when she was growing up in Jackson, Miss. But she knew that she couldn't make her dream come true if she stayed in Jackson, so at 16, she decided to leave.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Damn, I feel like singin' ... on TV?

Shania Twain finds her voice after a hard divorce ◐ The show premieres May 13 on OWN

Gladys Knight, Lionel Richie and David Foster are among the famous friends seen helping Shania Twain overcome personal turmoil on the country superstar's upcoming TV series.

The northern Ontario sensation launches her docu-series, Why Not? With Shania Twain, on May 13 on OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network.

The broadcaster says the six-part show will focus on Twain's attempts to recover from her well-publicized divorce from producer Robert (Mutt) Lange and rediscover her singing voice.

Along the way, Twain meets vocal doctors and coaches, a grief counsellor, and has intimate one-on-one conversations with music experts including Knight, Richie and Foster.

She's also seen returning to her hometown of Timmins, Ont., with her sister, Carrie Ann, to revisit childhood memories and their parents' sudden death in a car accident when she was 21.

Twain says in a release that she's thrilled to share her story with Canadian audiences.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DARREN CALABRESE/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Shania Twain at the 2011 Juno Awards in Toronto.

Objection

Objections to The Kennedys began more than a year ago when John F. Kennedy's speechwriter, Theodore Sorensen, and documentary filmmaker Robert Greenwald mounted an online campaign to shut down production with a petition complaining of "right-wing character assassination."

'A story that we told out of respect'

Beleaguered Kennedys series set to hit Canadian TV on Sunday

HANDOUT

Katie Holmes portrays Jackie, while Greg Kinnear plays John F. in The Kennedys.

Canadian actress Kristin Booth says she had no qualms about joining the beleaguered eight-part miniseries The Kennedys, even though the Toronto-shot historical drama was mired in political controversy that threatened to shut down production.

The bubbly 36-year-old, who plays Ethel Kennedy, says she simply saw an ambitious period piece with a stellar cast and intriguing subject matter.

Besides, she says, it was a given that the miniseries would have to involve some creative invention.

"When you're trying to tell a story about the relationships of these infamous people — behind the closed doors — yes, there are going to be liberties taken," says Booth, noting the Canadian-produced series focuses on the oft-fractured familial relationships.

"But with the actual historical facts, no — there were no liberties taken. And anybody who wants to argue that can pick up one of the books.... The Kennedy Men is a great book and one of the ones that I read during my research and everything that we depict in the miniseries is told in that book."

HANDOUT

Canadian Kristin Booth plays Ethel Kennedy.

Booth — whose TV appearances include The Border and Flashpoint — is well-practised at handling questions about the production's beleaguered history. She's just wrapped a press tour south of the border, where she says partisan views were palpable.

The series debuted on the U.S. network ReelzChannel on April 3, a full week before it is set to hit Canadian airwaves on History Television this Sunday.

"There is such a divide in the U.S. right now between the Democrats and the Republicans and this has really showcased that," says Booth, who attended a glitzy Kennedys red carpet in Los Angeles last week.

"Any publication that has any leaning to the right has given us quite good reviews and, (on the opposite side), anybody who has a leaning to the left has sort of trashed it and said that it's a slam job. Which it's not.

"All of us involved in it have the utmost respect for the Kennedy family and we did a ton of research and paid very close attention to the historical facts when we were shooting it. It's a story that we told out of respect."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TV picks

It's all about Oprah on a special two-hour episode of Master Class that focuses on the TV talk diva. Oprah talks about her successes, failures and heartbreaks. (Friday, OWN).

Comic Jeff Foxworthy and billionaire Mark Cuban have joined the judging panel on Shark Tank, the U.S. Dragons' Den clone. They weigh in on product pitches that include a suitcase for frequent flyers with a built-in child's seat attached. (Friday, ABC).

The 2011 Juno Awards, which marked their 40th anniversary this year, are getting a rerun. Rapper Drake, pictured, hosted the show and won kudos for an inspired opening bit with Justin Bieber and Lloyd Robertson. Arcade Fire, Broken Social Scene, Down With Webster, Hedley and Johnny Reid also performed. (Saturday, A).

Dame Helen Mirren hosts Saturday Night Live for the first time, while rockers Foo Fighters are the musical guests. (Saturday, Global).

The inaugural Comedy Awards, filmed in New York a few weeks back, drew a long list of A-list talent as trophies were handed out for the funniest TV series, movies, specials and comics. (Sunday, Comedy).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Stress sending Kate back to cigarettes?

World's most famous bride-to-be may be feeling the pressure

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES FILES

Kate Middleton

Kate Middleton is under a lot of stress, as her wedding to Prince William is just three weeks away, and sources say the soon-to-be Royal may be smoking again to cope.

"Only Princess Diana could understand the amount of pressure this young girl is experiencing," a source tells Popeater.

"The fact that she's smoking again isn't helping. She has always enjoyed an occasional cigarette — which suppresses her appetite — and has tried to give it up several times as William hates it. However, as the wedding gets closer and closer, she is smoking more and more."

METRO

Britney Spears

Looks like Brit is getting hitched

Britney Spears is getting coy about the future of her relationship with boyfriend Jason Trawick.

"We have such a great time together. He makes me laugh, and we are so comfortable being ourselves," she tells Us Weekly. When asked directly if there's a wedding in their near future, Spears teased, "Maybe. Never say never!"

A family friend, however, says it's practically a done deal: "[Jason] was someone she felt she could be her true self with," the source says. "[Marriage] is what they talk about and the direction they're going in." METRO

Celebrity tweets

@simonpegg

"I think a winter's snowboarding in Vancouver BC has buggered up my knees forever. When did I stop being 26? I can't get up without frowning."

@evalongoria

"It's 3am and im up doing hair and makeup for a satellite book tour for the cookbook. I'm delirious right now, so tired! but worth it!"

@SethMacFarlane

"Hey, supermodels-- stop saying, 'I'm actually really a big nerd.' Trust me. You're not."

@ConanOBrien

"The federal government might shut down on Friday, which means on Saturday morning, this bad boy is gonna park his car in a loading zone."

Pregnant Natalie feeling good, but superstitious

Natalie Portman

Natalie Portman is gearing up to welcome her first child this June, but that doesn't mean she's been stocking up on supplies. "I think it's a Jewish thing to be kind of superstitious. You don't do any of the baby stuff before the baby arrives," Portman says, according to Hollyscoop. Aside from superstitions, Portman says she can't complain, for the most part. "My back is not feeling great right now, sitting for so long. But everything's really great otherwise," the Oscar-winner says.

METRO

New relationship for Taylor?

Taylor Swift is turning heads again after sharing a low-key dinner in Nashville with Tron: Legacy star Garrett Hedlund, according to Us Weekly. Hedlund was in town to work on an album, and Swift was reportedly excited to get together with him. "It was their first time going out. They've been emailing for a while, and she hinted they should get together," a source says. "She has actually spent time getting to know Garrett. He's cute — and he's into country music! [She] likes that he's a normal guy." METRO

Wynonna not happy with Ashley memoir

While Ashley Judd is making headlines with allegations about her family life in her new memoir, her sister Wynonna isn't pleased. "How she could betray her own flesh and blood with this disturbed view of what happened is shocking and hurtful," a source tells Popeater of Wynonna's reaction. METRO

Dr. claims Jackson was suicidal

Attorney Edward Chernoff, the lawyer for Conrad Murray, the doctor accused of causing Michael Jackson's death, is now insisting that Jackson was so distraught over his declining fortunes and increasing debt that he chose to end his own life, according to the Associated Press. METRO

The joys of drinking wine in Spain

PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

There's a first time for everything and finally, after a few failed attemps, I got to experience Spain.

While it seems like an obvious place for any respectable wine guy to visit, I never got around to exploring what I discovered was one of the most liquidly lucrative countries on the planet.

The Spanish love vino with an appreciation level that might surpass their counterparts in France and Italy.

What really excited me was that you'd be hard pressed to find a tapas bar packed with anyone other than wine drinkers.

The city of Logroño, in the province of La Rioja, sold me on the level of Spanish wine appreciation.

The older city centre is known for its tapas and it was an amazing experience to enter one of these small bars, order its specialty and enjoy the glass with two dozen like-minded souls.

Internationally known Rioja brands are as popular there as they are in Canada, with rich, fruit-infused wines like the 2007 Marqués de Cáceres Crianza ($16.95 - $21.99) offering plently of regional personality.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS CANADA. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

The comeback of the food processor

Two new books are giving life to these handy appliances that have been forgotten in many kitchens Create main and side dishes, and desserts

DINNER EXPRESS

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

Cupboards are filled with abandoned small appliances that have left their owners perplexed as to how they can be incorporated into everyday use.

One of those appliances is the food processor.

But, two new books are hoping to change that.

The New Food Processor Bible: 30th Anniversary Edition by Norene Gilletz (Whitecap) guides you with recipes and nutritional information to stand up to your processor, and your taste buds.

Meanwhile, 650 Best Food Processor Recipes by George Geary & Judith Finlayson (Robert Rose) includes recipes from appetizers to desserts.

Check out these two recipes adapted from each book.

The first (from 650 Best Food Processor Recipes) is for a simple Traditional Salsa, which you can store for up to one week in the fridge.

The second is for Brownie Bites from The New Food Processor Bible. The brownies are a great snack addition to any lunchbox. They can also be frozen.

EMILY RICHARDS

▶ This recipe makes 2 1/2 cups (625 mL) of salsa.

Traditional Salsa

Preparation:

1. In work bowl fitted with metal blade, pulse onion until finely chopped, 10 to 12 times. Place in a strainer and rinse with water. Drain well. Set aside.
2. In same bowl, pulse tomatoes, chiles and cilantro until desired consistency, 15 to 20 times, stopping and scraping down sides of the bowl once or twice.
3. Add tomato mix to drained onions. Add lime juice, sugar and salt to taste. Let stand for at least 1 hour before serving. **650 BEST FOOD PROCESSOR RECIPES**

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE ON EMILY, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOK.CA.

Ingredients:

- 1 onion, cut into quarters
- 1 lb (500 g) Roma (plum) tomatoes, cored, cut in half and seeded
- 2 serrano or jalapeno chiles, halved and seeded
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) loosely packed fresh cilantro leaves
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) lime juice
- 2 tsp (10 mL) sugar
- 1 tsp (5 mL) salt (approx)

Brownie Bites

Preparation:

1. Spray miniature muffin pans with non-stick spray; set aside.
2. Process margarine, sugars, cocoa, egg, egg white and vanilla until well mixed. Scrape sides of bowl. Add flour and baking powder; process with quick on/off pulses, just until blended.
3. Spoon batter into muffin pans, filling three-quarters full. Bake in 350 F (180 C) oven for 16 minutes or until tops spring back when lightly touched. Let cool and frost or glaze, if desired. **THE NEW FOOD PROCESSOR BIBLE/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

CHRIS YOUNG/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup (125 mL) tub margarine
- 1/2 cup(125 mL) granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) packed brown sugar
- 6 tbsp (90 mL) unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 egg
- 1 egg white
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) vanilla
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) all purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) baking powder
- Chocolate glaze (optional)

3 life

Limiting salt

Follow these tips to decrease sodium in your diet:

- Look for products with 480 mg of sodium or less per serving.
- Think fresh, not processed.
- Bear in mind that often condiments such as ketchup and teriyaki sauce contain a lot of sodium. **NEWS CANADA**

Extreme coupon cutters are latest oddities for cable to feast upon.

4 sports

McIlroy, Quiros share the lead

Rory McIlroy and Alvaro Quiros are tied for the lead after the opening round of the Masters.

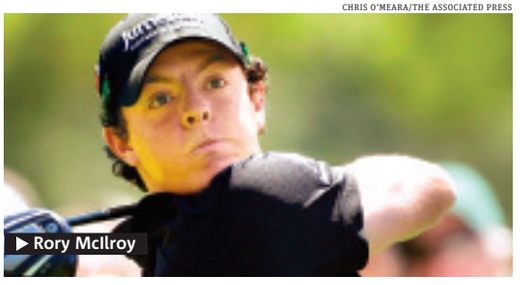
McIlroy posted a 7-under 65 in one of the early groups Thursday, then Quiros matched it in the final threesome of the day. The long-hitting Spaniard closed with a pair of birdies, sticking his second shot at No. 18 just behind the flag and rolling in a short putt to pull even with the 21-year-old from Northern Ireland.

There were plenty of red numbers on the board, the golfers able to attack the venerable course on a warm, sunny day with only a slight hint of a breeze.

South Koreans Y.E. Yang and K.J. Choi were two shots back at 67. Nine other players were in the 60s. Defending champ Phil Mickelson shot 70, and Tiger Woods was at 71.

Mike Weir may not make it to the end of the tournament. The former Masters champion stumbled with an opening round 4-over 76. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHRIS O'MEARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Rory McIlroy

Quoted

"We've been waiting for eight months to get to the playoffs. Seven months out of those eight, we've been great. This last month, we've not been great. Maybe it's a lull before we get jacked up again."

FLYERS FORWARD SCOTT HARTNELL OFFERS HIS TAKE ON PHILADELPHIA'S LATE SEASON SWOON THAT HAS SEEN IT FALL OUT OF FIRST PLACE IN THE EAST.

Scan code for more sports

Stoughton wants to keep up quick starts

Canadian skip likes to bring early pressure against rival rinks

It's been Jeff Stoughton's trademark at the Ford World Curling Championship to get an early lead and relentlessly defend it.

The stellar execution of that strategy resulted in Canada's first-place finish Thursday among the 12 countries in the preliminary round.

Stoughton, third Jon Mead, second Reid Carruthers and lead Steve Gould intend to keep pressuring the opposition right from the first rocks thrown as they head into the playoffs.

Canada should be able to do that Friday against Scotland's Tom Brewster (TSN, 9:30 ET) because the host team's reward for finishing first is starting the game with last-rock advantage.

"Hopefully we can score some points right off the hop because that seems to be working really well for us," Stoughton said. "We're not going to change it for tomorrow's game."

Heading into their final draw Thursday night versus Norway, Canada had outscored their opposition 46-24 over the first five ends and trailed at the halfway point in only two games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

High stakes

The winner of the Friday's game between the top two seeds advances directly to Sunday's championship game.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Jeff Stoughton looks on as team China struggles to place its shot.

Foote hanging up his skates

Long-time Colorado Avalanche defenceman Adam Foote plans to retire after 19 hard-hitting years in the NHL.

The club scheduled a news conference for Friday at the Pepsi Center.

Foote has appeared in more regular season and playoff games than any other defenceman in franchise history and was a member of Colorado's two Stanley Cup champions.

Foote contemplated retirement last summer but signed a one-year deal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1,153

Adam Foote played in 1,153 games and compiled 1,534 penalty minutes.

DOUG PENSINGER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Adam Foote

Sports in brief

Bonds case in jury's hands

TRIAL. The federal case against Barry Bonds is now in the hands of a jury.

Closing arguments in the former baseball star's 12-day trial wrapped up Thursday afternoon and the eight-woman, four-man jury went home a few minutes later. They'll pick up with deliberations on Friday morning. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A's avoid being swept

MLB. The Oakland Athletics salvaged the finale of a three-game series against Toronto on Thursday afternoon with a 2-1 victory over the Blue Jays. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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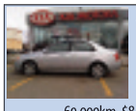
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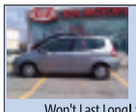
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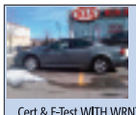
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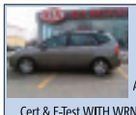
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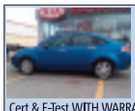
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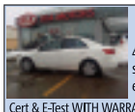
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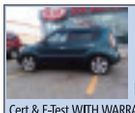
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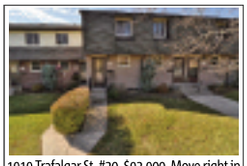
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$39/ week tax incl, $3000 down..OAC...8.99%..364 weeks

2006 PONTIAC GRAN PRIX GTP
4 door, 6 cyl, FWD, fully loaded, CC, CD, spoiler. Warranty avail. Premium sound system ($10-$12,000) $10,995/93K

Houses For Sale

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Houses For Sale

752 Springbank Dr.
$409,900
Large Ranch with private backyard backing onto Mitchell Park. Updated kitchen and large dining room. Bedroom or office/den and TV area off the kitchen and dining room. Very Large living room. Master with attached closet and dressing room. Lower level has 3 bedrooms, bathroom and large family room with gas fireplace. Large laundry room that could be converted to a kitchen with storage. This home quite unique property with lots of character.

389 DUNDAS ST # 806
$174,900
This 2 bedroom, 2 full bathroom unit updated and move in ready. Ceramic flooring in the foyer, kitchen and bathrooms. In-suite laundry room with washer and dryer. Separate dining room and large living room with North facing balcony. Master bedroom features his and hers closets, master ensuite has been recently updated. Condo fees include heat, hydro, water, Cable TV (Rogers VIP), large indoor pool, sauna, and exercise room.

64 Dalhousie
$224,900
Charming open concept bungalow. Main floor laundry. 5 Appliances included. Light, bright, neutral decor. Ceramic floors in foyer. Hardwood on main level. Cathedral ceiling in dining & living rooms. Gas fireplace. Custom California shutters in main floor bedrooms. Beautiful gardens. 3 season porch. Over 1500 sq. ft. main and approx. 850 sq. ft. lower. 2 decks! Many updates: Garage door (2005) Front door & A/C (2006) Roof (2007) Skylights (2008) 48 Hour Irrevocable on all offers

44 NOTRE DAME CR
$314,900
Large 4 level side split on a huge oversized lot complete with a heated 18 ft X 36 ft in-ground pool and a separate 22 ft X 40 ft 3 car heated garage/workshop. Cement driveway for 10+ cars. Beautiful 4 season Florida room with pine floors overlooking the pool and gardens. All windows except eat in area have been replaced. Roof (2005). Note Heat: Level 4 Forced air, Level 1 & 2 forced air and radiant, Florida room, gas F/P & Level 3 radiant. Large garden shed.

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12 Speight Crescent
Stan Burditt *
$192,900
Move in ready! Lots of curb appeal. The entire home professionally painted. New bay window (2010) in living room. The large eat-in kitchen. The lower level boasts an updated 3 pc. Bath. Large family room with corner gas fireplace. 3 cars driveway, 10 x 12 shed and new shingles (2009)

30 Cronyn Crescent
Stan Burditt *
$199,900
This 4 bedroom home backs onto Kiwanis park. Fabulous backyard has shed, pergola and pond. Garage with hydro, phone & Cable...perfect for workshop. 3 levels of updated space with a bathroom on each level! Hardwood floors and newer windows. Updates bathrooms.

1888 Downes Court
Adam Campbell *
$385,900
North London Home situated at the end of quiet cul-de-sac. Professionally landscaped, gas line for barbeque, custom shed/change room with cedar interior and a 4 year old heated, salt water pool. Professionally painted, beautiful hardwood and ceramic floors, gas fireplace, main floor office/den. Finished basement with 3 piece bath. California shutters on all windows, security system.

500 Osgoode Drive
Val Fournier *
$133,900
Lots of storage. Eat-in kitchen. Formal dining room overlooking living room with sliding patio doors to your own small deck and private fenced in yard. Basement has extra bedroom and finished den/home office, large storage and laundry room. Upstairs has three bedrooms, master bedroom has big triple closet. Parking included. Current condo fees under $200 add to the affordability.

1276 Staffordshire Rd
Adam Campbell *
$409,000
This lovely 4 bedroom 3 bath home located on a quiet road in desirable Hunt Club Green. This home features hardwood flooring on the main level, ceramic, great patio & a spacious main floor family room with gas fireplace. All 6 appliances are included: Fridge, stove, washer, dryer, microwave and dishwasher. This home is move-in ready, close to shopping, schools - both elementary & secondary, downtown but also accessible to walking trails and nature. 2 car garage.

143 Walnut Street
Garth Williams *
$194,900
This charming, 4 + 2 bedroom home in London's Oxford Park. Close to the Thames River near the parks, all amenities and public transit to downtown or UWO is only minutes away. Ideal investment with a beautiful large two room loft that has new reno's and insulation, some new windows, furnace, doors, kitchen components and added bedroom. The lower level has a full granny suite, large backyard and front porch. Ideal for a growing family or income property.

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Simon Farrugia Sales Representative
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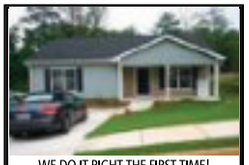

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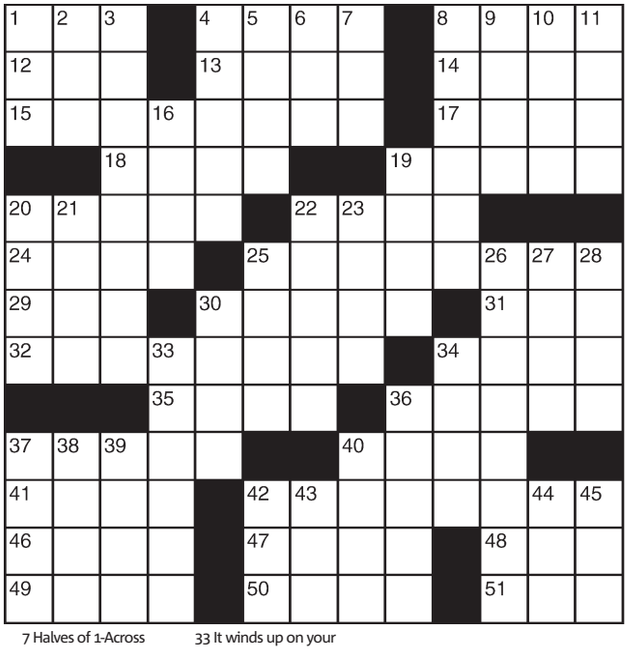
Crossword



Across

1 Type measures
4 Stupor
8 MRI forerunner
12 Greet the villain
13 Destroy
14 Verdi opera
15 Refuses to buy
17 Tide type
18 Vivacity, in music
19 Soothing agents
20 Baseball-shoe feature
22 Tater
24 Wander
25 Having a porous texture
29 Grecian vessel
30 Wooden peg
31 Sapporo sash
32 In the cards
34 Goes platinum?
35 — -friendly
36 Speechify
37 One of the sales staff
40 Two-way
41 Big branch
42 Video-game control
46 Met melody
47 Meara or Rice
48 That girl
49 Caution
50 Rod attachment
51 Stannum

Down

1 Recede
2 Cattle call?
3 Tofu makings
4 Legal claim
5 Car
6 Pimple
7 Halves of 1-Across
8 Citizen Kane's estate
9 Cambodian money
10 Leading man?
11 Kennel cries
16 Pull an all-nighter
19 Nonsense
20 Gunky stuff
21 Traditional tales
22 Waste conduit
23 Begged
25 Scoop holder
26 Political stalwart
27 Lend a sly hand
28 Obey reveille
30 Platter
33 It winds up on your head
34 "Confound it all!"
36 Blackbird (Var.)
37 Talon
38 Turkish money
39 Eastern potentate
40 Unit of force
42 Pickle container
43 Indivisible
44 Tai —
45 Barbie's companion

▶ Yesterday's answer

L	A	S	S		P	D	Q		A	W	E	S		
A	B	U	T		E	A	U		N	E	R	O		
V	E	E	R		O	D	A		T	A	R	P		
A	T	T	A	I	N		S	H	I	P				
			F	L	Y	T	H	E	C	O	O	P		
U	Z	B	E	K		R	E	X		N	B	A		
F	I	R	S		B	U	D		B	R	I	T		
O	N	O		G	E	E		H	A	Y	E	S		
S	C	O	U	T	T	R	O	O	P					
		K	N	O	W		R	E	T	O	L	D		
A	W	L	S		E	G	G		I	D	E	A		
S	O	Y	A		E	N	A		Z	O	O	M		
P	O	N	Y		N	U	N		E	R	N	E		

Sudoku

	3		8	4	5		9	
9								7
		8				2		
8	7		3		1		4	9
				7				
3	9		6		2		5	1
		9				3		
1								5
	2		5	3	4		1	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

2	6	8	7	4	3	9	1	5
9	4	1	2	5	6	3	7	8
7	3	5	1	8	9	4	6	2
4	1	2	6	9	7	5	8	3
5	9	6	4	3	8	1	2	7
8	7	3	5	1	2	6	4	9
3	5	7	8	6	1	2	9	4
6	2	4	9	7	5	8	3	1
1	8	9	3	2	4	7	5	6

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Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Lulu Le-mon, Happy Birthday my love. It's getting harder to show you how much you mean to me. Hopefully stunts like this demonstrate that in some small way. Every year with you is precious to me and worth celebrating.Never forget that. LOVE YA BABE !

To love someone deeply gives you strength. Being loved by someone deeply gives you courage. I have both strength and courage. Love u, my Zaichik! **YOUR SMALLEST CRUMB**

LB, I love you more than anything else in the world. You make me happier than anyone else could. I treasure you every day of my life. **LOVE, RW**

Hello my O Happy Birthday. I always have in memory all our happy moments and will never forget them. Miss u. **YOUR OLD HORSE**

Today
14°/5°
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Saturday
16°/13°
Partly cloudy
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Find your voice and make sure others know what you expect.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Find reasons to work with others and resist the urge to find fault with the things that they do.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Don't waste precious time and energy trying to convert people to your point of view.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Your chances of success will increase if you're clear on what you're hoping to achieve.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Live in the moment and look for the best both in yourself and in others.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 What occurs over the next day will remind you subtlety is more powerful than brute strength.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 If you want to get your message across, you will have to spell it out in simple language.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Stop treating work as a battle to be won or lost. Relax into a more balanced viewpoint.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Good news will land in your inbox. Most likely, it will be something very unexpected.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You can try to give a friend some good advice today, but most likely they won't listen.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Your carefree attitude will attract all sorts of people today.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. A loved one has been telling you one thing and doing the opposite. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

JAROSLAV PODHORSKY

MATT DUNHAM/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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